

A B S T R A C T

A response signal
generating unit (3) applies a predetermined supply
signal (2S) to a detection element (1) and outputs, as a
response signal (3S), a signal which has changed in
accordance with the impedance of an object (10) with
5 which the unit is in contact through the detection
element (1). A waveform information detection unit (4)
detects waveform information corresponding to the
impedance of the object (10) on the basis of the
response signal (3S) from the response signal generating
10 unit (3), and outputs a detection signal (4S)
representing the waveform information. A biometric
recognition unit (5) determines on the basis of the
detection signal (4S) from the waveform information
detection unit (4) whether or not the object (10) is a
15 living body.